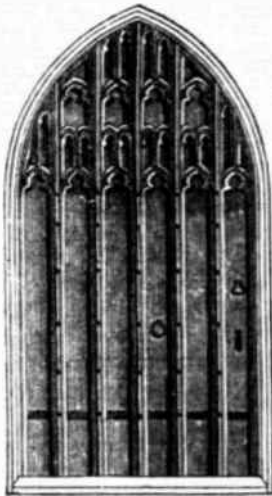
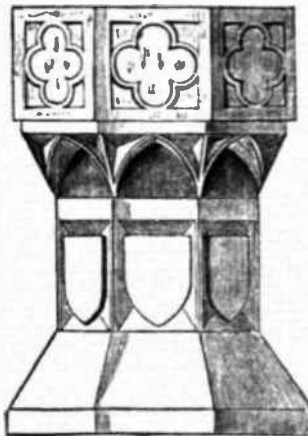




VIEW OF ROCKHAMPTON CHURCH. GLOUCESTER.



PORCH DOOR.



ELEVATION OF THE FONT.

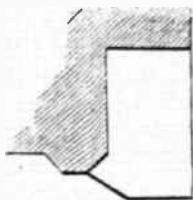


Plan of the Ribs of the Door.

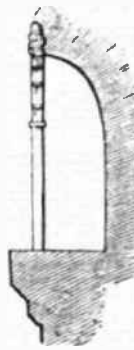
PISCINA IN THE CHANCEL.



FRONT.



HALF PLAN.



SECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUILDER.

SIR,—The above is a small church of the 14th century, situated in a secluded spot about two miles from the market-town of Thornbury; but is seldom visited by persons having a taste for antiquarian pursuits, being at some distance from the main road. It harmonizes well with the surrounding scenery; (and where is there an ancient church that does not?)

This rural temple is of small dimensions, and consists of a chancel, nave, tower, and south porch. The tower is of three stages, and a handsome little tower it is. The buttresses at its angles are finished a few feet below the parapet, which is pierced with cinque-foiled panels, and gives a pleasing effect to the whole. At the north-east angle is a belfry turret, finished at its summit with a pyramidal

capping: the pinnacles have five foiled panels sunk in them. Ivy is growing very luxuriantly on the western side, and adds to the rural appearance of the building.

At the south-east angle of the nave is a small square turret, doubtless erected to receive the water from the piscina in the interior wall. I could not perceive any aperture but the one shewn in the view above. In the porch there is a very good oak door of perpendicular date, such as is not often found in small churches; a sketch of it is here inserted.

The windows are simply square-headed, two-light five-foiled ones, with a hood-moulding and a wide splay on the interior, excepting those of the tower, the west and belfry, which are pointed two-light trefoiled windows with tracery, and one in the nave of debased character.

On the south side of chancel are sedilia of equal height, with seven-foiled and a shield in the centre of each compartment; the seat is formed on the window-sill projects 8½ inches beyond the face of the wall, on the eastern side, is another, with a cinque-foiled headed arch; a door on the north side has been blocked up years. The roof is semi-circular, and of no interest. The chancel arch is in its right position, at the west end of the nave, stands the font, which is of rather design; it is 2 feet 10 inches in height, of bowl 9½ inches, ditto of interior 6½ inches diameter across top 1 foot 10½ inches.

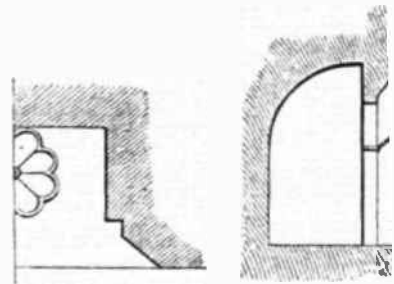
On the summit of the porch-gable is a dial, which by no means improves the of the church.

Of the history of this little edifice present know nothing, but may at some time; if so, I will send it. J. N.

PISCINA IN THE SOUTH WALL OF THE N



Front.



HALF PLAN.

SECTION.

LECTURES ON ARCHITECTURE AND ANTIQUITIES.

Lecture IV.

ROMAN ARCHITECTURE.

"Roma, Roma, Roma, non è più come prima."

Rome, regal, republican, imperial, present Rome, has for ages excited the wonder of the world, from the time that Romulus plan his humble capital,† over whose walls brother Remus leaped in contempt, until days of the emperors, whose word was a law to the whole world, and under whom the seamed city arose into a magnificence and splendour worthy of the mightiest nation that ever lived. There is a fascinating influence over the history of this wonderful people from which the mind is perhaps never wholly free. From our childhood we are led to look up to the Roman heroes as almost placed above the ordinary standard of mortality. Brutus, Caesar, and Pompey and Cato, and the Scipios and the Decii, and Fabricii, and a long train of illustrious characters, "men more than kings," appear as beings of a superior mould whilst the names of Virgil, Horace, and Ovid are synonymous with all that is most exquisite in the regions of poetry; and the orators, philosophers, and historians of Rome occupy the chiefest niches in the Temple of Fame. It is from the recollection of her immortal name that the traveller derives so much of pleasurable emotions when he visits the eternal city, where

"The very dust we tread stirs as with life,
And not a breath but from the ground sends
Something of human grandeur." ROSS.

It is true that Rome has become
"The Niobe of nations;" BYRON.
that she has fallen from her proud pre-eminence,

"But falling (she has) kept the highest seat,
And in her loneliness, her pomp of woe
Where now she dwells, withdrawn into the wild
Still o'er the mind maintains from age to age
Her empire undiminished." ROSS.

* "Roma, Roma, thou art no more what thou hast been."
—MRS. HEMANS.
† According to Cato Rome was built 753 B.C. According to Varro 754 B.C.